



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/042,485	01/08/2002	Seikei Lee	22738.00300	6078

7590 08/10/2005

Doyle B. Johnson
CROSBY, HEAFEY, ROACH & MAY
Suite 2000
Two Embarcadero Center
San Francisco, CA 94111

EXAMINER

THAI, CANG G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3629

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/042,485

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

Cang G. Thai

Art Unit

3629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/17/2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 16-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 16-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The amendment filed on 05/17/2005 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,397,275 (CLAPP ET AL.).

As for Claim 1, CLAPP disclose a network conferencing system having an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of presentation, a plurality of attendant electronic equipment operated by users attending a conference, and a conference management server connected with the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment so as to transmit and receive information to and from the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment via a communication network,

each of the attendant electronic equipment comprising:

Art Unit: 3629

an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the conference management server {See Fig. 6, Element 120};

a presentation unit for presenting the contents of a presentation by using the output electronic equipment {See Fig. 6, Element 122};

a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment {See Fig. 6, Element 124};

an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network, at a conference {See Fig. 6, Element 170};

an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network {See Fig. 6, Element 172};

a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit {See Fig. 6, Element 150}; and

a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit {See Fig. 6, Element 152},

wherein one of the authority to be a presenter terminal, the authority to be a chairman terminal, and the authority to be an attendant terminal, is acquired by each attendant electronic equipment {See Fig. 5, Element 122}.

As for Claim 2, which has the same limitation as in Claim 1, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 1.

As for Claim 3, which has same limitation as in Claim 1, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 1.

As for Claim 4, which has same limitation as in Claim 1, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 1.

As for Claim 5, CLAPP discloses the network conferencing system as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the authentication unit prepares attendance permission information which enables selection of icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment permitted to attend the conference, and attendance non-permission information which makes it impossible to select icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment not permitted to attend the conference {Column 18, Lines 23-26, wherein this reads over "a user may, for example, select ably decide to view video images associated with a local source video signal 254 received from either a main or an auxiliary video source 152 or 154"}.

As for Claim 6, CLAPP discloses the network conferencing system as claimed in Claim 4, wherein conference attendance requests including the personal information to request for attendance at the conference from the other attendant electronic equipment are inputted to the information input/output unit via the conference management server {Column 18, Lines 36-39, wherein this reads over "the gain of the audio input of a main camera or auxiliary camera, for example, may be modified by a conferencing party"}, and

the authentication unit prepares attendance permission information for changing the display mode of the icon displays of the other electronic equipment when the attendance is permitted in accordance with the operation by the user, in response to the conference attendance requests inputted to the information input/output unit {Column 19, Lines 13-17, wherein this reads over “conferencing parties, for example, may initially share a window presented in color, and subsequently switch to black and white presentation at step 730 if a degradation in picture quality, typically resulting from a reduction in the rate of data transmission over the data pipe 82”}.

As for Claim 7, CLAPP discloses the network conferencing system as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the display unit includes icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment existing in the communication network, in a first screen area, and includes icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment existing outside the communication network, in a second screen area {Column 19, Lines 18-20, wherein this reads over “a user may select a particular window for sharing, or choose to stop or start window sharing or document collaboration as desired at step 730”}.

As for Claim 8, which has same limitation as in Claim 7, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 7.

As for Claim 9, CLAPP discloses the network conference system as claimed in Claim 4, wherein conference leaving requests to request leaving the conference from the other attendant electronic equipment are input to the information input/output function via the conference management server, and the display unit changes the display mode of icon displays related to the other attendant electronic equipment which

Art Unit: 3629

output the conference leaving requests, in response to the conference leaving requests input to the information input/output unit {Column 19, Lines 49-54, wherein this reads over "the alerting software routine preferably interrupts the current operation of the visual conferencing application software or any other application software currently operating on the local host computer 244, and presents the user with a plurality of options, including an option to answer or ignore the incoming communication"}.

As for Claim 16, which has same limitation as in Claim 2, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 2.

As for Claim 17, which has same limitation as in Claim 5, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 5.

As for Claim 18, CLAPP discloses the conference management server as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the attendance management means outputs the prepared attendant equipment display information to the attendant electronic equipment connected with the communication network {See Fig. 6, Element 170}.

As for Claim 19, which has same limitation as in Claim 5, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 5.

As for Claim 20, CLAPP discloses the conference management server as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the attendance management means is supplied with conference attendance requests including the personal data to request for attendance at the conference from the other attendant electronic equipment, and prepares attendant equipment display information for changing the display mode of icon displays

Art Unit: 3629

on the basis of the attendance permission information from the chairman terminal in accordance with the conference attendance requests {See Fig. 6, Element 150}.

As for Claim 21, CLAPP discloses the conference management server as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the attendance management means prepares attendant equipment display information including icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment existing in the communication network, in a first screen area, and including icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment existing outside the communication network, in a second screen area {See Fig. 6, Element 122}.

As for Claim 22, CLAPP discloses the conference management server as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the attendance management means prepares attendant equipment display information for displaying location attribute information indicating the presence of each of the electronic equipment in the communication network; in the first screen area, and displaying location attribute information indicating the presence of each of the electronic equipment outside the communication network, in the second screen area {See Fig. 6, Element 150}.

As for Claim 23, CLAPP discloses the conference management server as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the attendance management means prepares attendant equipment display information for changing the display mode of icon displays related to the other attendant electronic equipment which output conference leaving requests in response to input of the conference leaving requests to request for leaving the conference from the other attendant electronic equipment {See Fig. 6, Element 150}.

As for Claim 24, CLAPP discloses an attendance authentication method for a conference management server connected with an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of presentation and a plurality of attendant electronic equipment via a communication network, each of the attendant electronic equipment comprising an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network, a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment, a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment, an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other attendant electronic equipment at a conference, an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network, a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication function and electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, and a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit, the method comprising the steps of:

inputting a conference attendance request including personal data related to the attendant electronic equipment from the attendant electronic equipment {See Fig. 6, Element 150};

outputting the conference attendance request to the other attendant electronic equipment {See Fig. 6, Element 122};

inputting the result of attendance authentication in accordance with the conference attendance request {See Fig. 6, Element 151};

preparing an attendance information file for managing the plurality of attendant electronic equipment attending a conference by using the personal data and the result of attendance authentication {See Fig. 6, Element 170}; and

preparing attendant equipment display information for displaying, as an icon, the personal data of each attendant electronic equipment managed as the attendance information file in accordance with the result of attendance authentication {See Fig. 6, Element 125}.

As for Claim 25, CLAPP discloses the attendance authentication method as claimed in Claim 24, wherein attendance permission information or attendance non-permission information from the attendant electronic equipment having the authority as a chairman terminal having the information input/output unit, the authentication function, the equipment management unit, the display unit and the proceedings control unit is inputted {See Fig. 11, Element 242}, and

the contents of the attendance information file are updated {See Fig. 11, Element 612}.

As for Claim 26, CLAPP discloses the attendance authentication method as claimed in Claim 24, wherein the prepared attendant equipment display information is

Art Unit: 3629

outputted to the attendant electronic equipment connected with the communication network {See Fig. 6, Element 122}.

As for Claim 27, CLAPP discloses the attendance authentication method as claimed in Claim 25, wherein attendant equipment display information which enables selection of icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment permitted to attend the conference on the basis of the attendance permission information from the chairman terminal and which makes it impossible to select icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment not permitted to attend the conference on the basis of the attendance non-permission information is prepared {See Fig. 6, Element 176}.

As for Claim 28, CLAPP discloses the attendance authentication method as claimed in Claim 25, wherein conference attendance requests including the personal data to request for attendance at the conference from the other attendant electronic equipment are inputted {See Fig. 6, Element 122}, and

attendant equipment display information for changing the display mode of icon displays is prepared on the basis of the attendance permission information from the chairman terminal in accordance with the conference attendance requests {See Fig. 6, Element 150}.

As for Claim 29, CLAPP discloses the attendance authentication method as claimed in claim 24, wherein attendant equipment display information including icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment existing within the communication network, in a first screen area, and including icon displays of the other attendant

Art Unit: 3629

electronic equipment existing outside the communication network, in a second screen area, is prepared.

As for Claim 30, CLAPP discloses the attendance authentication method as claimed in claim 24, wherein attendant equipment display information for displaying location attribute information indicating the presence within the communication network, in the first screen area, and displaying location attribute information indicating the presence outside the communication network, in the second screen area, is prepared.

As for Claim 31, CLAPP discloses the attendance authentication method as claimed in claim 24, wherein conference leaving requests to request leaving the conference from the other attendant electronic equipment are input, and

attendant equipment display information for changing the display mode of icon displays related to the other attendant electronic equipment which output conference leaving requests is prepared.

As for Claim 32, which has same limitation as in Claim 3, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 3.

As for Claim 33, which has same limitation as in Claim 4, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 4.

As for Claim 34, CLAPP discloses the network conferencing system as claimed in Claim 33, wherein the presentation unit transfers only the data related to the contents of the presentation to the output electronic equipment or the attendant electronic equipment {See Fig. 9, Element 410}.

As for Claim 35, which has same limitations as in Claims 33 and 34, respectively, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reasons set forth in Claims 33 and 34, respectively.

As for Claim 36, CLAPP discloses the presentation method as claimed in Claim 35, wherein only the data related to the contents of the presentation is transferred to the output electronic equipment or the attendant electronic equipment {See Fig. 9, Element 128}.

As for Claim 37, which has same element as in Claim 3, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reason set forth in Claim 3.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 05/17/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant failed to response to Non-final Office Action (10/042,485).

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 3629

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

No claims are allowed.

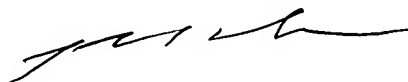
Art Unit: 3629

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cang (James) G. Thai whose telephone number is (571) 272-6499. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM - 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CGT
08/07/2005



JOHN G. WEISS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600